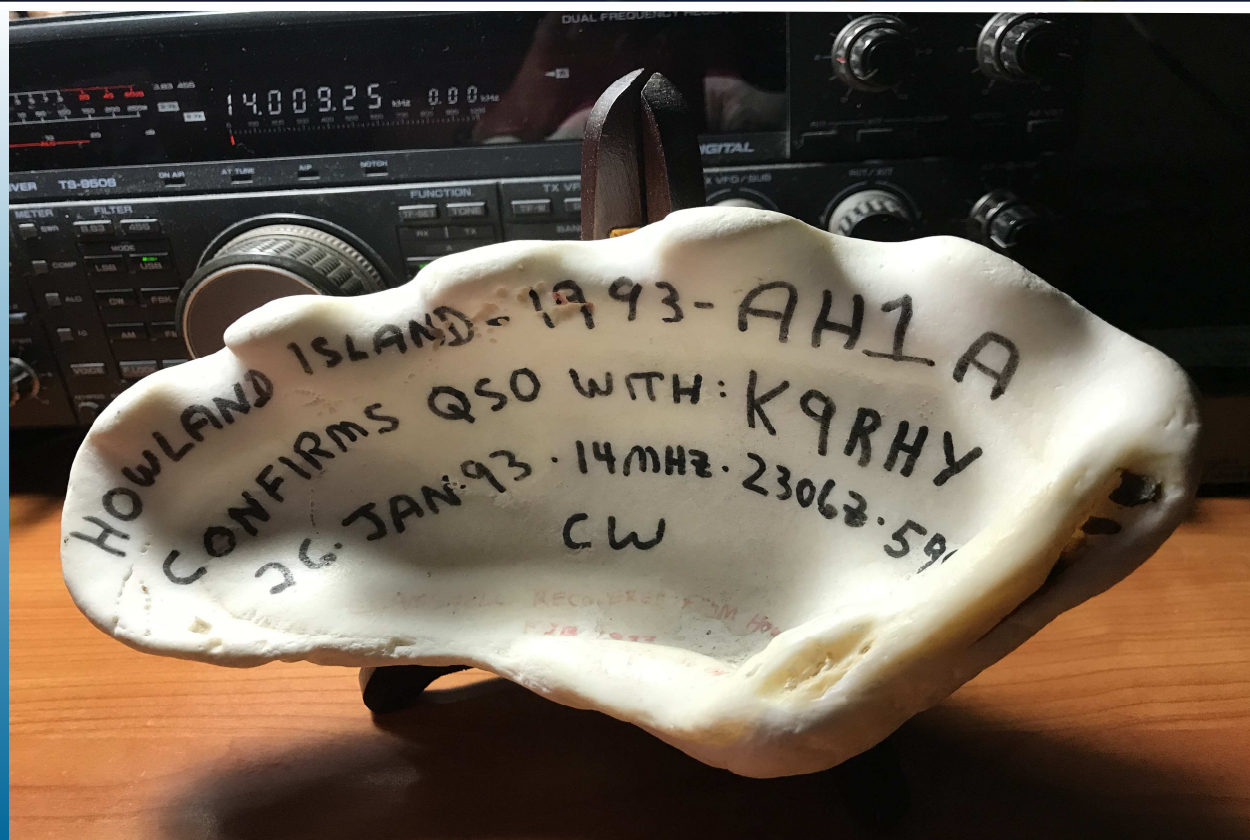


San Diego DX Club Bulletin

June 2018



JUNE PROGRAM

DXing in the Early DXpeditions Compared to Today

Don Miller, W9WNV

MEETING NOTICE:

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 27, 2018

JOIN US AT THE SIZZLER, 3755 Murphy Canyon Road,

San Diego, CA 92123 (858) 278-6988

SOCIAL HOUR, 5:00 P.M. DINNER, 5:30 P.M.

MEETING, 6:30 P.M

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From the Prez . . .

Mike, NA6MB

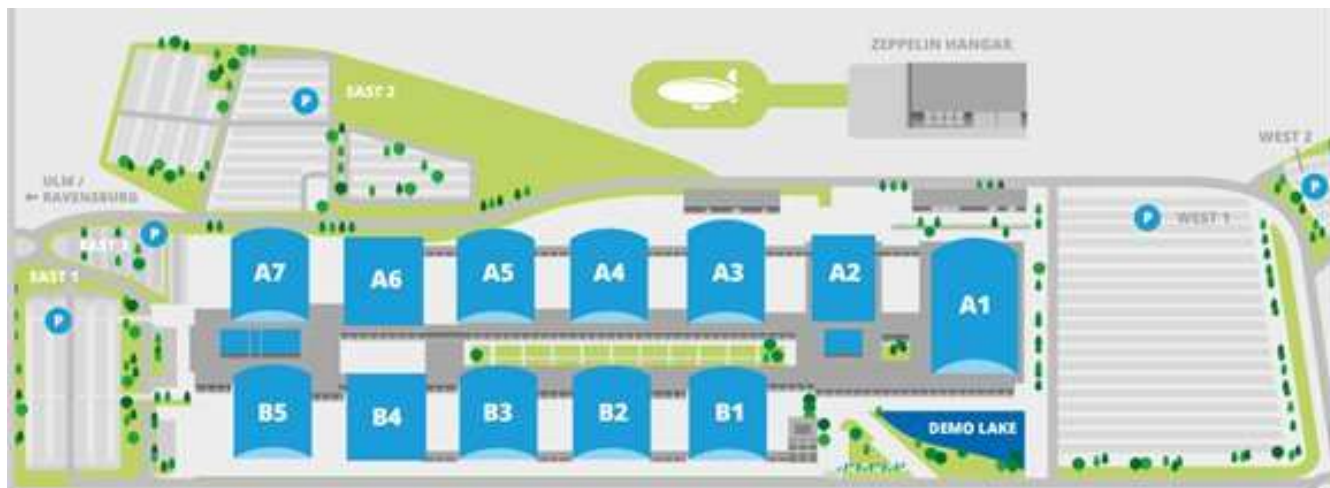
Well, as they say, all good things must end. This is my last President's Report as my term ends on the first of July. It has been an honor representing the SDDXC and has also been a pleasure to do it!

Now for the news from the NA6MB/K6GO station:

We just got back on June 17 from the aptly titled HAM RADIO event in Friedrichshafen Germany which took place on June 1 to 3, 2018. It was a fantastic trip. Our complete party was Randy KQ6RS and his wife Dawn, Howard W6HDG and his wife Jackie, Gayle K6GO and myself, NA6MB. Everyone had slightly different itineraries, but we (NA6MB / K6GO) flew from San Diego to Washington DC, then to Frankfurt Germany. We were supposed to fly on to Friedrichshafen after a two hour layover, but WX somewhere along the route had Lufthansa cancel all flights to the southern part of Germany. So, our adventure began with a four hour train trip instead of a one hour plane flight. Beautiful train, cruising across the very green countryside at 100 MPH. We then had to take a local for a while to get to Friedrichshafen. Arrived very late. The others had been to other cities before they arrived, but we all spoke on Thursday night before the HAM RADIO show and met on Friday to attend. Our trip was San Diego to Frankfurt to Friedrichshafen, HAM SHOW, Munich, Prague, then a Viking river cruise to Berlin then home. Randy / Dawn and Howard / Jackie went other places before and after the show. We all did the river cruise on the Elbe. Nice scenery, cities and castles to see along the way. The story of Berlin and the East / West split and finally reunification was fascinating.

The HAM SHOW was amazing. Huge. It was in four halls of a convention center. One had loads of vendors (A1 at 10,000 M² and A2 at 3,980 M²) and the other two (A3 and A4 at 6,270 M² each) had an indoor "flea market". At the same time there was another hall (B1 at 6,270 M²) with a "Maker Fair" going on. It is an amazing facility. Too bad the Dayton Hamvention doesn't have a facility like this.





Info: <http://www.hamradio-friedrichshafen.de/ham-wAssets/pdf/en/HAM-2018-Aussteller-Prospekt-EN-web.pdf>



Free shuttle from town to show.



QSL board – There were three of these!



Main vendor exhibit hall from middle



Elecraft KPA1500



Yaesu FTDx101D
Under glass, so probably doesn't work yet.



Flex radio booth - Howard KY6LA's favorite place.
Flex has a new radio configuration with knobs.



Teaching the kids to build.



YL Forum – over 100 YLs in attendance.



Italians gave out some great
wine and cheese



Swap meet area – one of two.

As expected only a few programs were in English (about 1/3), so we missed some that looked good. One we did attend was about the German Enigma machine and cracking its code. Their beer garden lunch area had some really good food.

The show was a great time and the trip was even better!

Again, thanks for your support during my term as president.

73 and good DX

Mike, NA6MB

Secretary/Treasurer Reports

Randy, KQ6RS

Meeting Minutes, May 23, 2018

At 6:30 pm Mike Binder, NA6MB, called the meeting to order. 29 members and no guests were in attendance.

Old business – The April minutes and Treasurer Report were approved.

New business – The proposed additions/changes to the slate were announced. Mike Binder becomes the current past President, Ron Richards, WB1EAZ moves to the President slot, Ron Rosson, N6XT as VP, Lou Poanessa, KW6Q joins the Board and Ron Stockton, NØRR moves off the Board. Eric, NC6K and Bud, AE6BH will continue on the Board. The Secretary/Treasurer Randy, KQ6R, Webmaster Glen, AI6RR and Newsletter Editor Bob, K9RHY all remain in place.

At 6:49 pm we started the roundtable discussion.

At 7:21 pm we took a break.

At 7:34 pm, Kristen McIntyre, K6WX gave a presentation on “A Wire in The Air What Matters Most” – basically the myths and realities of all types of antenna performance – and why.

At 8:45 pm the meeting was adjourned.

Treasurer's Report

Income for May:	None.
Expenses for May:	\$300 for annual club liability insurance.
Statement Balance on 5/18/2018	\$5,972.17



Randy, KQ6RS

VP Report

Ron, **WB1EAZ**



The HF bands have been rather quiet here lately. Some 6M activity watching John, NA6L, work JAs. But the big event that most are waiting for is Baker Island, KH1/KH7A. Baker Island is high on the most wanted lists and is sure to be a significant event for late June and early July. Much discussion has centered around the operation taking place close to the solar minimum and during the summer. However, it appears that the dates were decided upon based on when suitable transportation was available and when the US Fish and Wildlife would agree to the operation. The elephant in the room is the likely use of FT8 by the expedition. Assuming that FT8 is used, there will be some significant questions. Will a rate of 200+ an hour be possible/sustainable? Will the calling signals be so solid that no copy can be made?

A reminder to update to WSJT-X 1.9.1 and add in the calling frequencies provided by KH1/KH7A. If you plan on trying FT8 to contact the DXpedition and you haven't tried FT8 with the DX mode, you might want to read the documentation and try it out. This operation is likely to have some twists and turns, so be prepared.

Recent geopolitical events have given rise to speculation regarding P5 activation. As of now there is nothing definite that I am aware of. I suspect that if North Korean relations with the west continue to thaw, the first P5 operation will be conducted by a North Korean technical school with Chinese help. Let's keep our fingers crossed.

Summer has certainly arrived, along with what I refer to as "the doldrums", and with not much on the bands (even considering the low spot on the solar cycle). I have been trying to contact a few new slots; however it seems to be the story that when I can operate, they are not on, and when they are on, I am occupied elsewhere. This should be my last article in the Bulletin as VP. Thanks to all club members for all their support and assistance during my term as VP. Remember that summer events, including the Summer Bash, will soon be here.

May Program

A Wire in the Air What Matters Most

Kristen McIntyre, K6WX

Kristen provided another blockbuster program focusing on what are the important factors in antennas for design. Kristen went through what matters most, including resistance loss, pattern gain, terrain, polarization, coupling, and loading. She was able to clearly show why some of the advertising with various designs do not work as well as expected.

June Program

DXing in the Early DXpeditions Compared to Today

Don Miller, W9WNV

Don has been traveling around the world, detailing his experiences for the last 4 years. He provided a presentation at the ARRL 100th Anniversary Convention in 2014, and most recently, at the International DX Convention in Visalia. Don will provide his story and what DXpeditions he conducted still count and which ones were not recognized by ARRL.

Ron, **WB1EAZ**

THE SDDXC TOP 10 (EXPANDED VERSION)

By John, K6AM

TOTAL BAND-COUNTRIES WORKED

6/18	6/17	CALL	ZNS	C-D	CFM	WKD	CHG	6/18	6/17	CALL	ZNS	C-D	CFM	WKD	CHG
1.	1.	K6XT	321	2672	2758	2839	-	11.	11.	WB6BFG	321	1855	1865	1975	-
2.	2.	W6YI	367	2668	2723	2827	+23	12.	-	W5BN	319	1384	1384	1923	NEW
3.	3.	K6AM		2680	2741	2757	+5	13.	16.	N6XT	307	1415	1435	1732	+290
4.	4.	N7CW	376	2526	2526	2715	-	14.	13.	N6VS	?	1524	1542	1633	+10
5.	5.	N6CW	374	?	2300	2629	-	15.	14.	K5OA	276	1329	1349	1597	-
6.	6.	K0XB	346	2326	2362	2393	+22	16.	15.	NN6K	226	1513	1539	1539	-
7.	7.	K6ZH	338	2204	2250	2325	-	17.	17.	WB1EAZ	?	1479	1490	1495	+65
8.	10.	NA6L	341	2121	2121	2213	+169	18.	18.	W6HDG	290	1152	1152	1409	-
9.	8.	W6YOO	306	2144	2181	2177	-	19.	20.	NC6K	?	1036	1049	1155	NEW
10.	9.	WN6K	332	1838	1982	2156	-15	20.	19.	N6JOJ	218	985	1032	1032	-

In the TBC category, the granddaddy of DX'ing, Art, K6XT holds on to first place on the strength of his excellent 160 meter total, but Jim, W6YI is catching up fast. Quite a few nice jumps from the rest of the players with Ron, N6XT making the biggest gain after a long stretch with no report.

There's plenty of room to make a decent gain in this category by getting on those bands where your totals are still low. The low bands and 6 meters should give up a few more as we approach the bottom of the cycle. For the TBC list, we are showing the first 20 places to accommodate the large number of entries in this category.

Remember to update your logging software to include the new Z6, Kosovo prefix and get me an updated report before we do the Mixed, Phone, and CW ladder totals later this year. The current ladder was updated on Jan 1 but didn't get posted to the Club's web page until this week. Check it out.

Each month, we will publish a top ten list for one of the lesser-recognized but hard won categories. Coming up next, 6/160 and digital followed by phone and CW. Please send me your totals for each band throughout the year and you will be listed in coming months. Use the convenient form at <http://www.sddxc.org> or bring 'em to the meeting.

John, K6AM

SDDXC RESULTS 2017 CQ WORLDWIDE PHONE DX CONTEST

CLASS	CALL	SCORE	QSO'S	MLTS	FINISH
SO - HP	ZF2AH (op W6VNR)	656,964	2,131	154	#5 ZONE 8
SO - HP	K6NA	553,581	678	303	#4 W6, #7 ZONE 3
SA - HP	W6YI	281,748	352	318	#4 W6
SA - HP	N5ZO	204,530	334	226	#10 W6
SO - LP	WN6K	190,872	378	198	#5 ZONE 3, #2 W6
MS - HP	NX6T (OPS N6KI NN6X KK6NON)	119,340	333	156	#2 W6
SA - LP	N6CW	20,184	96	87	
SA - HP	W6JBR	18,675	102	75	

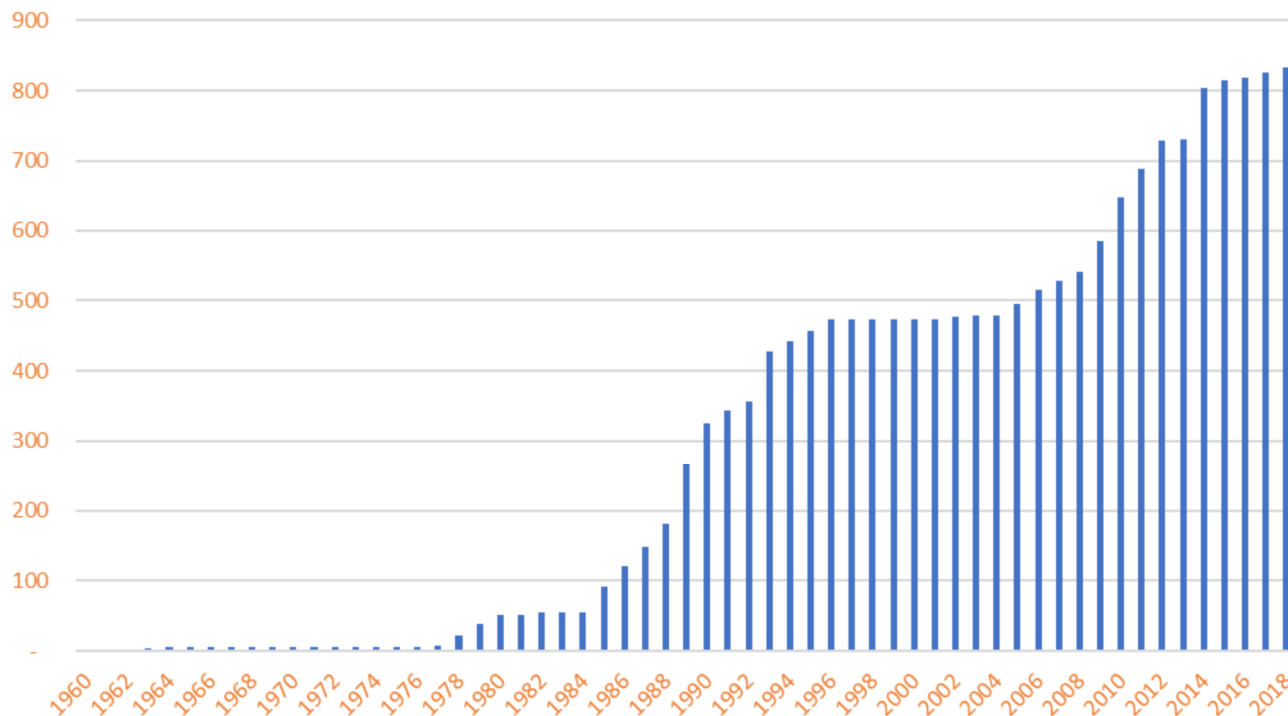
From the Editor

Bob, K9RHY



58 Years of IOTA Chasing

K9RHY Cumulative New IOTA by Year



Just back from Alaska, the Russian River in Sonoma and San Francisco and ready to add my monthly \$0.02 to the SDDXC Bulletin.

Among several topics that I considered writing about that might be of interest to Bulletin readers, I thought the memories that accompany almost 60 years of chasing Islands on the Air (IOTA) might make the list. Like many of my fellow DXers in the Club that have spent most of their lives chasing DX counters, I know that getting near the top takes time.

Looking at the graph above, you can see that my IOTA collecting began in 1960. Actually, I had never heard of IOTA in 1960. Indeed, there was no IOTA in 1960.

In 1964 a British SWL, Geoff Watts created an activity program based on contacting island groups around the world. Geoff realized that the numbers of individual islands worldwide was far too large to manage, so he brought them together into manageable groups of islands, forming the backbone of the award program as it exists today. Geoff managed the IOTA lists and records until 1985 when he handed the program over to the RSGB.

When I formally entered the program in 1978, I looked through my QSL card collection, scanning for islands. These confirmations went into my initial IOTA award application in late 1994.

I was "Elmered", into the IOTA program by two legends, Ed Goodbout, W9DWQ (SK), who was one of the "Top Guns" of the IOTA program at the time. My other Elmer was Jim Model, K9PPY, who today holds the #5 slot on the All Time IOTA Honor Roll with 1116 confirmations. Tom Dugec, 9A2AA is at the top of the list with 1119, so the race is pretty tight. (I'm nowhere close).

In these early days of the IOTA program, most (perhaps all) of us kept manual records of our confirmations and contacts. Pencils and paper were the state of the art in record keeping back then. We used mimeographed and Xeroxed lists (sent via the US Postal Service) to keep up to date. There were few home computers, and the internet was still mostly in universities and government labs. Here is an example of my IOTA "record keeping" from the earliest days of my program participation.

AS

✓	1	VU9KV	
	2	A9XCE	2-11-81
	3	457AJG	5-23-82
	4	5BADA	14-8-76
✓	5	UAΦBAD	
	6	V5GDB	18-1-70
	7	JH1GNU	all JA
new	8	J11DUA	22-XI-89
✓	9	V59KRV	
✓	10	V59HARU	
✓	11	V45KV	
89	12	J16KVR/6	3-11-89
	13	3078A	Sept 14-80
✓	14	V59OC	
	15	9M2FK	4-AP-70
	16		
	17	KR6TU	29-Aug-71
	18	UAΦEN	
	19	9V1GKRF	18-02-73
	20	BVΦAA	21-04-84
✓	21	A6XF	
new 90	22	RA100/RAΦΦ	23-07-89
new 89	23	JE6TSP	10-JUL-88
	24		
✓	25	UAΦFFR	Submit for JAN 1, 1990
	26	HLΦHAK	13-June-88
	27	UKΦKAA	June 21-76
	28	UΦCR	
new 89	29	UZΦQXG	6-16-88
	30	7J1HEI/SD	6-Sept-87
	31	JD1ACF	4-8-73
new 89	32	JH6DTX	12-5-88
	33		NJC0BAR 12L
✓	34	ET3ZU/A	
✓	35	OE6XG/A	
new 89	36	3078A	12-NIV-88
new 88	37	J16STZ	9-4-88
new 90	38	USΦSU	20-6-1989
	39		UAD
1989	40	JP1ACV	21-11-80

My totals today are around 800, so paper record keeping would no longer work.

IOTA has awards not only for raw "counters", but also by continent (AF, AN, AS, EU, NA, OC and SA). I can't imagine keeping these records without a computer and some good database software.

The graph tells more about my lifestyle over the years than I would normally share on Facebook. It shows college, graduate school, IBM career, building my own business, numerous relocations, raising a family and finally starting to take a bit easier.

In anticipation of the upcoming KH1/KH7Z operation, I went through my collection of KH1 confirmations (after all, Baker and Howland ISLANDS) and found several going back to 1988. My favorite, however, is on the cover of this month's Bulletin. It is one of my favorites. The Op was K9AJ, another Top IOTA participant.

Good DX to all .

Bob, K9RHY